

REMARKS

Applicants have now had an opportunity to carefully consider the Examiner's comments set forth in the Office Action of August 25, 2004.

All of the points raised by the Examiner are addressed herein. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

Claims 1-8, 11, and 13-15 remain in the application and claims 16-24 are added after this Amendment is entered.

The Office Action

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,621,589 to Al-Kazily, et al. (Al-Kazily).

Claims 1-8 Patentably Distinguish Over Al-Kazily

As amended, independent claims 1 and 6 now include the limitation "wherein the plurality of print job attributes include print job accounting information, the print job accounting information including a charge account code, wherein the agent service is adapted to retain the charge account code for collection by a business-to-business accounting system." Al-Kazily does not disclose or fairly suggest print job attributes related to print job accounting or charge account codes. Therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 and claims dependent thereon (claims 2-5) are currently in condition for allowance. Likewise, the applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 6 and claims dependent thereon (claims 7 and 8) are currently in condition for allowance.

Moreover, the examiner rejected dependent claims 3 and 7 which set forth an augmented user interface for collecting print job attributes related to print job accounting as anticipated by Al-Kazily. In support of these rejections, the Examiner apparently relied upon column 9, lines 7-12 of Al-Kazily. Column 9, lines 7-12 state "the print application...converts the print job to page description language and attaches the end user specified job processing attributes and other necessary printer commands and transmits the print job to the print queue." Notably, attributes associated with print

job accounting in general and charge account codes in particular are not disclosed or fairly suggested by this reference or any other portion of Al-Kazily. Therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 3 and 7 are currently in condition for allowance.

Additionally, the Examiner rejected dependent claims 5 and 8 as anticipated by Al-Kazily. In support of these rejections, the Examiner states that an augmented user interfaced for collecting a plurality of print job attributes related to sending the print job to multiple recipients is disclosed at column 9, lines 6-10 of Al-Kazily, determining that the print job has been directed to multiple recipients as disclosed at column 4, lines 18-22, and generating a plurality of copies of the print job, one for each of the multiple recipients is disclosed at column 4, lines 15-25.

The applicants have reviewed these referenced sections and other portions of Al-Kazily and find no mention or suggestion of distributing a print job to multiple recipients or generating copies of a print job for each of multiple recipients. Therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 5 and 8 are currently in condition for allowance.

Claims 11 and 13-15 Patentably Distinguish Over Al-Kazily

As amended, independent claim 11 now includes the limitation “wherein the plurality of print job attributes include print job accounting information, the print job accounting information including a charge account code.” Al-Kazily does not disclose or fairly suggest the use of print job attributes related to print job accounting information in general or charge account codes in particular. Therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 11 and claims dependent thereon (claim 13) are currently in condition for allowance.

Moreover, dependent claim 13 addresses distribution of the print job to multiple recipients. For the same reasons as stated above for dependent claims 3 and 7, the applicants respectfully submit that dependent claim 13 is currently in condition for allowance.

As amended, independent claim 14 now includes the limitation "wherein the plurality of print job attributes include distribution information, the distribution information including information associated with sending the print job to multiple recipients." For the same reasons as stated above for dependent claims 3 and 7, the applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 14 is currently in condition for allowance.

As amended, independent claim 15 now includes the limitation "wherein the plurality of print job attributes include print job accounting information, the print job accounting information including a charge account code, wherein the agent service is adapted to retain the charge account code for collection by a business-to-business accounting system." For the same reasons as stated above for independent claims 1 and 6, the applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 15 is currently in condition for allowance.

New Claims 16-24 Patentably Distinguish Over Al-Kazily

New claims 16-24 are directed to an augmented operating system printing architecture that includes print job attributes related to distribution information in general and recipient names and telephone numbers in particular associated with sending the print job as a fax to one or more recipients. Notably, Al-Kazily does not disclose or fairly suggest use of print attributes that include distribution information or recipient names and telephone numbers. Therefore, the applicants respectfully submit that new claims 16-24 are currently in condition for allowance with respect to Al-Kazily.

CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is submitted that all claims in the application (Claims 1-8, 11, and 13-24) are now in condition for allowance. The foregoing comments do not require unnecessary additional search or examination.

In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he/she is hereby authorized to call Patrick R. Roche at Telephone Number (216) 861-5582.

Respectfully submitted,

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11/24/04
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